

City of McMinnville
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

METAL DETECTING REQUIREMENTS

The McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department acknowledges the value of responsible metal detecting as a recreational pursuit for individuals and families. To support these endeavors while ensuring the protection of park resources, the City of McMinnville has established a metal detecting permit that will allow permit holders to metal detect during an established two-year period. At this time, current permit holders and others must purchase a new permit for the new 2014-15 permit period. The use of metal detectors will be allowed, by permit, within the McMinnville Parks System during this two-year period, subject to the following permit requirements, guidelines, and restrictions.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Each individual wishing to use metal detectors within the McMinnville Parks System will be required to sign a Metal Detecting Agreement and purchase a McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department issued **McMinnville Park System - Permit to Metal Detect**.
 - a. Children 14 years of age and younger may metal detect without a permit **ONLY** when accompanied by and directly supervised by a permitted adult, 18 years of age or older (otherwise, a permit is required.)
 - b. The new Permit to Metal Detect shall expire on December 31, 2015.
 - c. Each permit shall include the person's name, photo and expiration date of permit.
 - d. Permits must be worn and visible at all times while metal detecting in McMinnville Parks and must willingly be provided for inspection upon request (Those without permits in their possession will be prohibited from metal detecting.)
 - e. Permits are non-transferable.
 - f. Permits will cost \$6.00 for the two year permit period (replacements will cost \$4.00).
 - g. Permits must be purchased at the Parks and Recreation Department (Community Center – Tuesday through Saturday 9:00AM to closing.)

If the trial period is successful, and metal detecting is permitted beyond the trial period in the future, permits will be re-issued on a two-year basis for \$6.00 (new permits purchased within 4 months of the expiration date will be issued for \$8.00 and include the next two-year permit period, 2014-2015)

PARK ORDINANCE:

1. McMinnville Park Ordinance 4698 Section 6.3 Prohibitions Relating to Vandalism
 - a. 6.3(1) "No person shall pick, cut, mutilate, remove or uproot plant life or natural resources of any type from any park without written consent from the Director of Parks and Recreation..."
 - b. 6.3(6) "No person shall dig-up, deface or remove any dirt, stones, rock, or other substance whatever, make any excavation, quarry any stone, lay or set off any blast, or cause or assist in doing any of these things, within a park area, except by special permit from the Director...."
2. Individuals acting carelessly, causing and leaving noticeable damage to turf or other park areas may be cited for vandalism, subject to forfeiture of Metal Detecting Permit, and financially responsible for all necessary repairs.

BEST PRACTICES:

1. Individuals who are permitted to metal detect (and extract findings) within McMinnville parks must do so in a manner reflecting “best practices” that absolutely minimize soil disturbance, protects the integrity of lawn turf, does not diminish the aesthetic quality nor lead to diminished natural health of the surface being investigated. Any metal detector who causes unnecessarily large surface disturbances or uses careless practices that damage or changes the nature of the ground being investigated will be subject to the provisions of McMinnville’s Park Ordinance related to Vandalism (Sections 6.3(1)(6) as noted above.
2. Metal detecting is PROHIBITED in the following areas:
 - Kiwanis Marine Park; Rotary Nature Preserve; Airport Park, wetland areas at Dancer Park and Discovery Meadows community parks, all baseball infield areas.
 - Only “surface detecting” is allowed upon any sports field within McMinnville Parks
 - Do not dig if conditions are too dry and the integrity of the turf cannot be maintained.
3. When operating a metal detector within any park area, please do so in a safe, friendly and considerate manner.
 - Remain respectful of others space and privacy at all times. Do not interfere with or disrupt other park users and/or activities.
 - Metal detecting within designated playground areas is not permitted when children are present.
 - Interaction with young children (13-under) should occur only when the child’s parent or caregiver is present.
4. The use of a “Pinpointer” type detector is preferred and recommended to aide in locating the target and minimizing soil disturbance during retrieval.
5. Probing the ground is limited to the use of an ice pick or screwdriver like tool with a maximum blade or shaft length of 6 inches in length, or a knife with a blade under 3” in width.
6. To protect turf areas and prevent holes which are unsightly and pose a danger to other park users, the Parks and Recreation Department recommends the use of the “Hinged Door Method” for target recovery (see attachment).
 - Before digging, check the immediate area for sprinkler heads and valves. Some parks have shallow irrigation systems. Therefore, the maximum depth for digging is 6”.
7. Target retrieval may be conducted only with a hand implement (hand trowel or probe).
 - A “Lesche Digger” is an approved and recommended discovery tool.
 - Shovels and other trenching tools are prohibited.
8. Any area disturbed MUST be returned to its previous state and the ground surface carefully leveled and returned to its original condition (prior to probing) as much as possible (leave no trace).
9. The cutting of vegetation is prohibited as is the tampering with or moving any park equipment or fixture.

10. Any item found of unusual value should be treated according to the “Rights and Duties of Finders and Owners” defined in Chapter 98 of the Oregon State Statutes.
 - Such items found within McMinnville Parks should be reported to the McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department (503-434-7359) so it can be returned to an owner who may have reported the item lost.
11. If hypodermic needles are found, please report them to a Park Ranger (if on duty), the Parks Maintenance Office (503-434-7316) or call Police non-emergency phone number (504-434-6500). Do not throw hypodermic needles in park garbage cans. Other dangerous items (ie: weapons or drugs) should be reported as well.
 - Any trash or debris generated by metal detecting activities must be removed from the park or properly disposed of in a garbage can within the park.
12. Individuals who are permitted to metal detect in McMinnville’s park system do provide “extra eyes” on park activities. In order to help us maintain safe and enjoyable parks for visitors of all ages, please report any suspicious behaviors, acts of vandalism, or threatening circumstances to the “non-emergency” Police Dispatch line, 503-434-6500.

All individuals wishing to receive a permit to metal detect in McMinnville parks will be asked to provide ID, sign an acknowledgement and agreement form that states that he/she has read the “Metal Detecting Requirements,” that they agree to honor the restrictions and best practices, and they will be good stewards of McMinnville’s park environments.

It is the intent of the McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department to support local metal detecting enthusiasts by providing a permit system that allows responsible detecting within the McMinnville Parks System. We are very hopeful that the trial period described above will be successful and the permit system will continue into the future. The Parks and Recreation Department does, however, retain the right to cancel all permits (without refund of permit fees) at any time in the future, if it is determined that metal detecting practices are detrimental to our park environments.

City of McMinnville
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

METAL DETECTING PERMIT AGREEMENT
MCMINNVILLE PARK SYSTEM

I have read and understood the McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department Metal Detecting Requirements and agree to honor and support the rules and intent as described. I understand my permit must be worn and visible at all times while I am metal detecting in McMinnville Parks. I agree to act in a friendly manner at all times and take great personal care to protect park grounds and environments while visiting and metal detecting within the McMinnville Park System. I also understand the Parks and Recreation Department retains the right to cancel all permits (without refund) at any time in the future, if it is determined that metal detecting practices or related behaviors are detrimental to our park environments.

Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____
Print Name

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Hm. Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____
Please Print Clearly

Signature _____ Date _____

Yes ___ No ___ Please e-mail me any Metal Detecting updates that may apply to McMinnville Parks
Check one

For Staff Use Only:

Fee Paid: \$ _____ Date: _____ Staff Initials _____

This Metal Detecting Permit agreement must be completed and signed by the permit applicant.

- All information must be provided

This PINK agreement form will be retained by the City of McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department.